

- 2 -

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim [[2]] 9 wherein:
said channels each have one of said exits.

4. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim [[2]] 9 wherein
said channels each have two of said exits.

5. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim [[1]] 9 wherein:
there are an even number of channels.

6. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim [[1]] 9 wherein:
there are an even number of channels, each of said channels being a mirror
image of another of said channels.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim [[1]] 9 wherein:
said ~~conduits~~ channels each have one exit.

9. (New) A fuel cell apparatus comprising:

a fuel cell stack having a plurality of fuel cells in fluid communication with a
fuel inlet manifold;

a fuel inlet distributor comprising a flat surface in fluid communication with
5 said fuel inlet manifold, said distributor having a plurality of fuel flow channels,

- 3 -

each of said channels having substantially the same length and substantially the same flow cross section as each other one of said channels, each of said channels being independent of each other one of said channels, a first end of each of said channels having at least one fuel flow exit perpendicular to and adjacent to a
10 different, corresponding portion of said flat surface; and

a fuel supply pipe in fluid communication with second ends of all of said channels opposite to said first ends, whereby fuel flow from said pipe is distributed through said channels and impinges perpendicularly on all of said corresponding portions.